

Todos Santos lies immediately in front, with the fine town stretching away on its eastern side. The bay is full of shipping, and extends for over 20 miles northward. There are several islands at its head, and sundry rivers run into its waters. Later in the day we anchored off the Public Gardens, from which point a capital view of the city is to be had. It consists of a higher and lower town. The higher portion includes the suburbs of Victoria and Bomfra, and has several fine streets and stately houses, where the officials and principal merchants reside. The lower portion is devoted to commerce, and contains shops and warehouses for the sale of inland produce and foreign goods. There is a Naval Arsenal, but apparently of very little pretensions to size or utility. The public buildings are of no importance, except the cathedral, which is built of marble, and is said to be the handsomest of its kind in Brazil.

During our fourteen days' stay here, numerous excursions were made both by rail and river, for through the courtesy of the directors of the respective companies free tickets were placed at the disposal of the officers. This afforded special opportunities for seeing the country for some miles' radius. A short distance beyond the city the land for miles appears to be covered with forests of charming trees, of all shapes, sizes, and unknown names; while nestling around their green borders are plantations and little farms, giving the scene a most picturesque effect.